

HONDURAN PORT THREATENED

U. S. GUNBOATS ORDERED TO SCENE OF CONFLICT.

Marietta Going to Ceiba; Duquesne or Paducah to Follow—Story That Zelaya Had Clash With Minister Merry Is Circumstantially Denied by Well.

WASHINGTON, March 11.—Three Nicaraguan steamships with armed forces on board are in the vicinity of Ceiba, Honduras, and an attack upon the place is imminent, according to a despatch received at the State Department to-day from Philip Brown, the Secretary of the American Legation to Honduras and Guatemala. Mr. Brown said that the Honduran Government had made the announcement. Ceiba is the principal port on the north coast of Honduras and a great deal of fruit is exported from there to the United States.

The gunboat Marietta of the American Navy is at Bluefields, Nicaragua. The Navy Department has been informed of the State Department's advice about the impending attack on Ceiba, and it is likely that the Marietta will proceed to the scene of the expected action as once.

Orders have been sent from the Navy Department to Rear Admiral Evans, commanding the Atlantic fleet, to send one more gunboat to Central America. The vessel will be either the Duquesne or Paducah; whichever finishes target practice first will go.

The reports that Mr. Merry, the American Minister to Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Salvador, had had a disagreeable clash with President Zelaya of Nicaragua during a discussion of the settlement of a claim of Samuel Weil, an American, against the Nicaraguan Government, met with numerous denials to-day. Chief among them was one from Senator Corea, the Nicaraguan Minister, who received and made public a despatch from the Nicaraguan Consul at New Orleans. From this despatch it appears that Mr. Weil is in New Orleans and also that he was with Mr. Merry when the Minister visited Managua at the time the incident was reported to have taken place. The despatch is as follows:

"Mr. Samuel Weil, resident here, says he accompanied Minister Merry in his railroad trip from Managua to Corinto in the Presidential car gallantly offered by President Zelaya. Until he sailed Mr. Merry was the object of full attention from Nicaraguan authorities. News published regarding the mistreatment of the American Minister is certainly a calumny circulated by enemies of Nicaragua to unfavorably impress public opinion here."

A despatch was received at the State Department by mail to-day from Mr. Merry at San Jose, Costa Rica. It was dated February 14 and told of an attempt on the part of the Nicaraguans to search the ship on which he sailed from Corinto for Costa Rica for munitions for war. The State Department will not make public all the contents of the report.

Despite the denials of to-day the fact remains that Mr. Merry once complained to the State Department that his despatches to the Department were being interfered with.

DISPUTED BORDER LANDS.

Gen. Vasquez of Honduras Tells of Precedents and Real Causes of War.

MOBILE, March 11.—There is not a man in Central America who is watching more closely the developments in the troubles between Honduras and Nicaragua than Gen. Domingo Vasquez, although the ex-President whom Polycarpo Bonilla defeated for office in 1894 has no idea of taking advantage of the opportunity to make an attempt to reestablish himself. He has positively declined on a dozen occasions to ever again be the cause of a revolution in Honduras. While discussing this question to-day Gen. Vasquez remarked:

"I do not ever wish to bring more disgrace on Honduras. I have been asked to head such movements and have always declined. I can see what is coming. There can be but one end to these affairs and that is the establishment of a protectorate by the United States, and the sooner this condition of affairs arrives the better off will be Central American nations."

It was when Polycarpo Bonilla went to President Zelaya and asked for assistance to overthrow the administration of President Vasquez that the land deal which has been made the cause of war between the two countries was entered into. Gen. Vasquez was vitally interested in that deal. He says Bonilla offered to give Zelaya all the country north of what is known as the Coco or Segovia River, which territory should include the wonderfully rich lands surrounding the Caribbean Sea. This is one of the richest sections of the entire republic.

The required assistance was extended to Bonilla and he took possession. This was in 1894. Gen. Vasquez since then has made his home either in the United States, Costa Rica or in European countries. After Polycarpo Bonilla established himself as President of Honduras he had not the courage, Gen. Vasquez says, to enter into a treaty with Nicaragua by which this land should be decided away. He, therefore, simply tolerated Nicaragua and President Zelaya acting as the administrator of the territory in question.

When President Bonilla was succeeded by Cievorra the land over which Zelaya was allowed to retain jurisdiction was reduced to a very small strip over in the headwaters of the Coco River. The question which has recently arisen has been directly over the land grant given by Bonilla, so many of the people in the United States believe, but over the point raised by Zelaya that a branch of the Coco River, very small when the original boundary was settled upon, but at present a big stream, was the real boundary line of the two countries.

This branch of the original stream reaches the sea to the northward of Cape Gracias and includes a great part of the country given to the Pittsburg company in the concession by President Zelaya.

Gen. Vasquez added that it was not his opinion that the boundary line had really the slightest thing to do with the present threatened war. The true cause was the great desire on the part of President Zelaya to obtain political control of Honduras, a condition of affairs he could not bring about as long as Gen. Manuel Bonilla, the present President, remained in office. Manuel Bonilla

Accumulated Hardships

of Winter make help just now most timely. Many have reached the limit of their strength and resources. A little help now can save serious breakdowns for overworked mothers and delicate wage earners and children who have been underfed and poorly clad. Send \$1, \$5, \$10, \$50, \$100 and we will gladly write, if desired, just how your gift is used. R. S. McIntire, Treas., Room 211, No. 106 E. 22d St.

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nilla has a mixture of Indian blood and has a will of his own, and he has a desire to retain control of his own political affairs and not need over this political power to the ruler of an adjoining country.

KING ALFONSO BETTER.

Has Only a Cold, but Doctors Fear Recurrence of Feverish Symptoms.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. MADRID, March 11.—The condition of King Alfonso who has been confined to his bed for the last day or two by a cold which he caught while playing golf, shows improvement to-day.

The doctors in attendance, however, fear a recurrence of the feverish symptoms. The physicians will not allow the King to transact State business and insist that he remain idle. The King is a restless patient and chafes at the restrictions placed upon him, but he obeys orders. It is expected that he will be a prisoner for five or six days.

The Queen drove about the city this afternoon, apparently to show that the rumors that the King is seriously ill are untrue. According to report Alfonso is deeply impressed by his approaching parenthood. He seems to have grown graver and older. He has abandoned some of his former sports, including automobile driving, and devotes more of his time to the Queen's company. He has even been designated part of the marvelous outfit that is being prepared for the baby.

Magnificent festivities are being prepared to celebrate the birth of the child, the chief being a gala ball at the first Sunday afternoon after the Queen is accouched. Ten bulls will be killed instead of the usual six. The performance will be duplicated in the evening, when for the first time on record the huge Plaza de Toros will be illuminated.

There will be a gala performance at the opera the same night. Ambrose Thomas's "Hamlet" will be given.

JEALOUS OF GERMANY.

England Wants Equal Concessions for Her Trade With the United States.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. LONDON, March 11.—In the House of Commons to-day Walter Runciman, Parliamentary Secretary of the Local Government Board, replied to the question whether the tariff arrangement reached between the United States and Germany would confer an advantage on German imports into the United States over those from the United Kingdom and whether the Government intended to claim similar concessions for British trade under the most favored nation clause.

He said that a modus vivendi between the United States and Germany was being arranged, but that nothing had been settled yet. In the event of British trade being abated the Government would enter into negotiations with the Government of the United States.

JAPANESE TROOPS WITHDRAW.

Only Railway Guards to Remain in Manchuria—Mukden Tax Muddle.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. MUKDEN, March 11.—Japan is withdrawing all its troops from Manchuria, excepting 15,000 men, who will act as railroad guards under the Russo-Japanese treaty.

The foreign Consuls at Mukden are strongly protesting at the non-settlement of the li-king question by the Chinese Government. The Viceroy holds that foreigners who import foreign goods shall be given treaty port rights within the foreign concessions at Mukden, but foreign goods in Chinese hands he subjects to li-king (the local tax).

The American and Japanese Consuls contend that the commercial treaties of 1903 opened all Mukden. The question at present involves Mukden only, but really concerns the whole of Manchuria.

NEW QUICK FIRE RECORD

Made by British Cruiser in China Squadron in Practice.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. HONGKONG, March 11.—The British China Squadron has achieved a world's record in light quick firing practice. The cruiser King Alfred fired twenty hits in thirty-eight rounds from 3 pounders and 100 hits in 143 rounds from fourteen 12 pounders.

The best record with the 3 pounders was a run in one minute of fourteen rounds with twelve hits. This is a record in the light quick firing class.

The best score with the 12 pounders was twelve rounds and eleven hits, the first instance of eleven hits being made in 14 seconds from a 12 pounder. The average of hits made by fifteen 12 pounders was 10.9 per minute, which is a world's record.

Democrats Hold Their Own in Maine Elections.

Portland, Me., March 11.—Bangor and Brewer elected Republican Mayors and City Councils to-day. Augusta, until last year a Republican stronghold, re-elected Mayor Plafie, Democrat, and a Democratic City Council. Belfast was captured by the Democrats. In Biddeford, which the Citizens' party has held thirteen years, they re-elected Mayor Littlefield by only seven majority and lost control of the City Council to the Democrats.

The Weather.

The storm which caused the snow in this region on Sunday was moving northeastward off the New England coast yesterday, giving way to an area of high pressure with generally fair weather east of the Mississippi River.

It was warmer from Texas northward to Minnesota and the Dakotas and in the Mississippi Valley. In the lower Lake regions and Atlantic States it was slightly colder in the morning, but became warmer.

High north to northwest winds prevailed on the New England coast.

In this city the day was fair; slightly colder in the morning, becoming warmer; wind, fresh northwest; average humidity, 54 per cent; barometer, corrected to read at sea level, at 8 A. M., 30.30; at P. M., 30.30.

The temperature yesterday as recorded by the official thermometer is shown in the appended table:

1897 1906 1907
9 A. M. 27° 27° 8 P. M. 41° 41°
12 M. 30° 30° 12 M. 36° 36°
2 P. M. 38° 44° 12 M. 36° 43°

Lowest temperature, 26°, at 8 A. M.

WINDS: PORTLAND: PORTLAND TO-DAY AND TO-MORROW

For eastern New York, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia, Delaware, eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, increasing cloudiness and warmer to-day; rain at night or to-morrow morning; light to fresh east to southeast winds.

For western New York, partly cloudy and warmer to-day; rain or snow to-morrow and on Wednesday and south winds; variable winds becoming southerly east and fresh.

For western New York, partly cloudy and warmer to-day; rain or snow to-morrow and on Wednesday; rain or snow to-morrow and on Wednesday; rain or snow to-morrow and on Wednesday.

CANNON TO THE PORTO RICANS

SAYS HE HOPES THEY WILL EARN SELF-GOVERNMENT.

In Address to House of Delegates the Speaker Adroitly Replies to Demand Voiced by Its Presiding Officer—Complaints of St. Thomas Consul.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. SAN JUAN, March 11.—Congressman William B. McKinley and the members of his party, including Speaker Cannon, took a long trip on the military road to-day. They lunched on the roadside. On their return they visited the Executive Council and later went to the House of Delegates, where a vociferous reception was given to them. Señor De Diego, the Speaker of the House, welcomed them in a patriotic speech, in the course of which he emphasized Porto Rico's capacity and readiness for self-government.

It was the duty of the United States, he declared, to grant this wish. Mr. Cannon, in replying to the speech, diplomatically implied that the island was not yet ready for self-government. He dwelt upon his visit here four years ago, and upon the wonderful progress made since then. He added:

"All that government is for is the protection of all the citizens of the Government, whether they be strong and powerful or weak. In the United States we call ourselves an Anglo-American population. In Porto Rico you are of Spanish descent. You pursue your best interests under our changed conditions and we pursue our best interests under our changed conditions. We are being knitted together as by hooks of steel, and your interests are our interests, and your misfortunes, if you have them, will be our misfortunes."

"If you prosper and we prosper we prosper together. If you fail to prosper and we fail to prosper we fail together. The people of the United States view with great interest the fate, or perhaps I will not use that word, the immediate future of the West Indies."

"Cuba, with greater material wealth than Porto Rico and after four years of prosperity and safe government has been convulsed with revolution. The United States, keeping in mind the fact that the Cuban Government was organized, which promise was written in the Cuban Constitution, has been compelled to intervene in Cuba. Santo Domingo in a hundred years has gone from prosperity almost to anarchy. The United States by treaty has promised to collect the revenues there so as to prevent the intervention of the nations of the Old World, and it is hoped that from this on there will be a stable Government in Santo Domingo under these conditions."

"The people of the United States look with great interest to the progress of the people of Porto Rico. They are asking if Porto Rico is competent for self-government. Those who are best informed in the United States point with pride to the material, the educational and the moral progress that you have made since you became a part of the great republic. It is the universal desire of the people of the United States that you may progress in prosperity as to demonstrate your capacity for self-government."

"There is not a citizen in the United States of the 55,000,000 who does not hope and pray that you will demonstrate your capacity for self-government, and for self-government not only on your own account but on our account as well, especially as an example to the neighboring islands that peace and prosperity are possible in one of the islands of the West Indies. This will make the star of hope bright in the breasts of the people of the United States and of the people in the other islands, that these islands may follow the example that you are so nobly setting."

There is some comment among the passengers on the Hamburg-American Line steamer Bluecher on the tardiness of Christopher H. Payne, American Consul at St. Thomas, who is a West Virginia negro, in calling upon Speaker Cannon when the Bluecher arrived there yesterday morning. The Consul did not pay his respects to the Speaker until just before the steamer sailed for San Juan to-day.

Mr. Payne has hung conspicuously in the consulate a picture of President Roosevelt at dinner with Booker T. Washington. It is labelled "Equality."

It is reported that the Congressmen and others on board the Bluecher will not be allowed to land at Colon if the vessel calls at any Venezuelan port, owing to the fact that yellow fever has appeared in Venezuela.

The Bluecher will sail hence for Fort de France, Martinique, to-morrow.

DEFENDER OF SWETENHAM.

Wall in the Commons From Jesse Collins, "Victim of Jamaican Intrigue."

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. LONDON, March 11.—During a debate on colonial affairs in the House of Commons Jesse Collins attacked the Government for its treatment of Gov. Swettenham of Jamaica, whom he describes as now the victim of local intrigues. Mr. Collins resented from his personal observation that during the earthquake Gov. Swettenham was cool and calm; that he kept order throughout the trouble, inspired confidence, obtained labor and arranged for the care of the injured long before American aid arrived.

In demanding that the American marines be reembarred he had acted entirely as became a British Governor. The American officers, he said, have given the orders that had the British officers. They were apt to shoot when they saw a crowd of black people piling, and in such a case the vast colored population, outnumbering the whites twenty to one and having no great love for the American flag, might have been goaded to violence and insurrection.

Nobody doubted Rear Admiral Davis's good intentions, but he was misled by false information from intriguers. Gov. Swettenham was grateful for his assistance, but he would not have foreign armed men on British territory. There was absolutely no need for them.

Mr. Collins admitted that there were faults in the correspondence but said that these were by no means wholly on Gov. Swettenham's side. He had seen a private letter showing that the alleged animosity interpolated in the midst of another topic which was resumed immediately he had finished.

The official apologies sent to the United States by the British Government had compelled Gov. Swettenham as a man of honor to resign, but his resignation was discredited to Great Britain and he demanded restitution. Mr. Collins's interpolation led nowhere, being awkwardly interpolated in the midst of another topic which was resumed immediately he had finished.

MR. GRISCOM REACHES ROME.

New Ambassador to Italy Will See the King Next Week.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. ROME, March 11.—Mr. Lloyd Griscom, the new American Ambassador, arrived here yesterday and had a cordial interview with Signor Tittoni, Minister of Foreign Affairs. He will present his credentials to the King tomorrow day next week.

Mr. Griscom has engaged the Palazzo del Drago, formerly occupied by Mr. White, his predecessor, and will hold his first official reception there shortly.

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STRONG HAND FOR STRIKERS.

PREMIER CLEMENCEAU UPHELD BY VOTE OF CHAMBER.

Electric Workers Retaliate With Threat That They'll Wreck Paris Plants Next Time—War With Combatants on Backs of the People—Royalist Fears.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. PARIS, March 11.—Pataud, the leader of the electrical workers, said to-night that in order to prevent the men being replaced by soldiers or otherwise the next time they strike they will demolish all the machinery before they leave the shops.

M. Jaurès, the Socialist leader, interpellated the Government in the Chamber of Deputies to-day regarding the strike of the electrical employees. His speech was a weak one, amounting to nothing more than asking the Government why it had threatened to use military engineers to run the electric plants. It, however, gave Prime Minister Clemenceau another opportunity to declare his readiness to use the strong hand to preserve social order without apology to anybody. In social order he included established public conveniences.

M. Jaurès declared that no disorder was threatened and that therefore the Government's course amounted to an abridgment of the right to strike. A strike, he added, was war. Would the Chamber deny miners the right to strike when the reserves being exhausted, the moment was deemed favorable for the amelioration of their condition?

He declared that M. Clemenceau, who had frightened the Conservatives with his income tax proposition, could not be in their service. He ought to assure the working proletariat as to its rights and liberties. Otherwise, in addition to making the Conservatives uneasy, he would increase the distrust of the workmen and would disappear between the two.

M. Clemenceau in responding said: "M. Jaurès has told you that strikes are war. They are a war, not between two adversaries, but between two adversaries on the backs of the passersby. No Government, were it M. Jaurès's own, could permit such a war. He asks us to give strikers a free course, and would know by what right we intervene. I respond most simply: 'By the right of society to existence!'" [Applause.]

"You would have us leave Paris at night a prey to robbers and incendiaries. I ask you, M. Jaurès, if as the father of a family you would consent to see your indefinitely deprived of bread? It is that same question that I have for Paris, it is the same question that I must resolve."

"You advocate oppression of the social body by the minority. You intimate that we would make slaves of the workmen. The laws enacted here permit nothing of that kind, but still less would we have the workmen become tyrants. What we wish to defend against you is whatever present society has that is good and to prepare for what it may hereafter have that is better."

The Prime Minister aroused some emotion when he said that when M. Sarraut, Under Secretary of State, received on Saturday the electrical delegates, they threatened that if soldiers entered the factories there would be bloodshed that night.

"It is," declared M. Clemenceau, "who, in the name of the united Government, have taken the responsibility for sending soldiers. If you do not overthrow me to-day I will do it again to-morrow." [Great applause.]

The Chamber rejected M. Jaurès's motion by a vote of 418 to 90, and voted confidence in the Government, 378 to 68.

On no side except Jaurès's has there been any defence of the strike, but the Royalist papers seem fearful of the future results of this short lived trouble. To-day the stout Royalist Gaulois, which is also the stoutest pro-Catholic organ, says the elements of the strike represent the crowding of the bourgeoisie as the bourgeoisie pressed the nobility and clergy in 1789.

It has required but a century for the power of the bourgeoisie to pass from the offensive to the defensive. Soon there will be only two groups, the partisans of property and its enemies. This is because social equilibrium no longer exists. What substitutes with the name of authority is but the debris of former governments, to which has been grafted the attachment of universal suffrage.

Since the birth of the present republic insurrection has divided it in two. The first half, installed at the helm of the Ministry, has featured its nest. The other half is in the streets and workshops impatiently waiting for its chance to take possession. The only remedy is the restoration of one authority.

Under what conditions and at what moment this superior moral force will reestablish itself would be presumptuous to decide, but it will be reestablished, even if through convulsions.

MR. GRISCOM REACHES ROME.

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the dog license fee was probably unconstitutional.

In December, 1905, Mr. Cameron was summoned at the instance of the society before Magistrate Nathaniel March of Stapleton on the charge of sheltering a dog for which he had taken out no license. He admitted that he had the dog and that he had not paid the fee, but said it was because he did not think that the collection of the license money was lawful. The Magistrate said that he scarcely thought he should be called upon to decide upon the constitutionality of an act of the Legislature, so he took the law as it stood and fined Cameron \$1, or half the fee he would have to pay when taking out a new license.

Mr. Cameron appealed from the decision of the Magistrate to the County Court. His case was argued by Mr. Shortt, while Dyckman & Carr represented the plaintiff. It is said that an attempt was made to settle the matter out of court, but Mr. Cameron's blood was up and he determined to see the matter through.

From the briefs submitted it was learned that the act making it a misdemeanor to harbor dogs without paying a license fee and turning over the money to the S. P. C. A. had been declared unconstitutional in 1901 by the Court of Appeals on the ground that the State Constitution, Article 7, section 9, forbids the payment of any public money to a private corporation. An attempt was made at the session of the Legislature to pass an amendment that would get around this provision. An amendment for that purpose was passed, but according to the decision of Judge Stephens the amendment did not accomplish what it was intended to, and therefore the law is still unconstitutional.

The amendment merely provides that the money for dog licenses, after the cost of a shelter is provided, should go to the society as compensation for enforcing the laws against cruelty to animals instead of being turned over to the society to do with as the officials saw fit. Judge Stephens handed down no written opinion in the case, but it is judged that he based his order of reversal on the argument that the amendment of 1902 had not in any way served to remove the constitutional objections to the judgment of the Magistrate so reversed, that the fine be remitted and that the defendant be discharged.

JEWELS SOLD AT CHRISTIE'S.

High Prices for Ornaments From Massey Mainwaring Collection.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. LONDON, March 11.—The dispersal of the Massey-Mainwaring collection of plate, jewels, &c., began at the Christie auction rooms to-day. A magnificent emerald brilliant and pearl necklace by Boucheron, having in the centre an oblong emerald weighing 23½ carats, one of the largest in the world, brought \$28,000.

A pearl necklace of five rows, composed of 471 graduated pearls, sold for \$25,500, and a necklace of emeralds, pearls and brilliants for \$13,500.

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